



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2566

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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12-12-02
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In re Application of:)
)
SHINICHI ITO et al.) Group Art Unit: 2823
)
Application No.: 09/842,403) Examiner: M. Estrada
)
Filed: April 26, 2001)
)
For: FILM FORMATION METHOD,)
SEMICONDUCTOR ELEMENT)
AND METHOD THEREOF, AND)
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING)
A DISK-SHAPED STORAGE)
MEDIUM)

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Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§ 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d), each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from the European

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Patent Office in a counterpart application and that communication was not received by any individual designated under § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 6, 2002

By: 

Richard V. Burgujian
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